

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application of:

Pinkham

Group Art Unit: 3753

Serial No.: 09/311,520

Examiner: S. Hepperle

Filing Date: May 13, 1999

Date: 3-28-00

Chromatography Valve Assembly:

Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION **UNDER 37 CFR 1.116-EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed on February 3, 2000, please enter the terminal disclaimer filed herewith in the above-captioned application and amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the following claims:

1.(TWICE AMENDED) A diverter valve assembly for use in liquid chromatography comprising:

a unitarily formed valve body;

a plurality of ports in said valve body, at least one of said ports functioning as an inlet port for allowing liquid to enter into said valve body, at least one other of said ports functioning as an